

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 21, 2004. Claims 1-37 are presented for examination. Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29-31, 36, and 37 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent No. 5,659,164 ("Schmid") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,019,916 ("Ogura"). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The claimed invention generally relates to an information processing system having a multifunction apparatus, which is equipped with a facsimile function and an information processing apparatus. One important aspect of the invention, as recited in Claims 1, 8, 15, 19, 22, and 30, is controlling the size of each page of the output image data based upon an acquired output size, such that all the pages coincide in size with the output size of a prescribed page from the output configuring information stored in the information processing apparatus. Another important aspect of the invention, as recited in Claims 31, 36, and 37 is processing to attach cover page information, which is the same size as the data generated to be transmitted, based upon acquired page size information.

Schmid relates to automatically creating, identifying, routing and storing digitally scanned documents. In the Schmid system, pages of originals are scanned in, and each page of data is associated with corresponding page-specific data. The image data and page data are stored prior to transmission. As is conceded in the Office Action, Schmid does not teach or suggest modifying image or page size, and the Examiner cites Ogura in this regard.

As pointed out by the examiner, in Ogura, when the receivable paper size at a receiving side and the size of a facsimile to be transmitted are different, the facsimile size

is changed to the receivable paper size in order to correlate the receivable paper size and the facsimile size. However, this arrangement merely shows that a facsimile size may be made to coincide with the receivable paper size, rather than controlling the size of each page of the output image data based upon an acquired output size, such that all the pages coincide in size with the output size of a prescribed page, in the manner claimed.

Likewise, this arrangement does not teach or suggest attaching cover page information, which is the same size as the data generated to be transmitted, based upon acquired page size information.

Specifically, in Ogura, the transmitting side changes the size of pages to be transmitted according to “TABLE 2” (see Col. 11), which determines whether or not a receiving side can receive the page. For example, if three pages are to be transmitted, including an A3-size page and two A4-size pages, and a receivable size at a receiving side is B4 or A4 (Ogura mentions that the receiving side can receive a plurality of sizes), then the A3-size page is changed to B4-size without changing the size of the other two pages. Thus, one page having a changed size of B4 and two pages of A4 size are transmitted to the receiving side from the transmitting side, rather than all the pages being the same size as a prescribed page, as claimed.

By contrast, in the claimed system, the A3-size page (of the three-page facsimile discussed above) would be changed to A4 size to coincide with the A4 size of the other two pages (i.e., changed to the size of the prescribed page, which may be, for example, a cover page). Thus, all pages would be transmitted with the same size. Of course, this is merely an example and does not limit the scope of the claims.

Applicants note that, in Ogura, the receiving side may print out all the pages of a received facsimile on the same size paper, as discussed at Col. 17, lines 13-16.

However, this merely means that a facsimile may be printed without adjusting the page size at all, i.e., “with no regard to the data size.” This portion does not teach or suggest the claimed features discussed above, which relate to changing the page size in accordance with a prescribed page size.

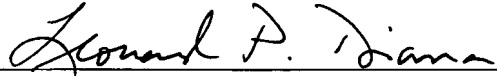
For at least these reasons, the independent claims discussed above are believed to be allowable over Ogura and Schmid, taken separately or in any possible combination (assuming for argument’s sake that such combination would even be permissible).

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Leonard P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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